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Chairman: Mr. Koudelka (Vice-Chairman) ..... (Czech Republic)

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In the absence of Mr. Wali (Nigeria), Mr. Koudelka (Czech Republic), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

Agenda item 50: Macroeconomic policy questions (*continued*)

(a) International trade and development (*continued*) (A/C.2/60/L.18)

Draft resolution on international trade and development

1. **Mr. Blake** (Jamaica), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.18. International trade and development were critical issues for the sponsors and among the most contentious for the international community. The sponsors had therefore endeavoured to use language already agreed and had drawn on the discussions leading up to the 2005 World Summit Outcome. He urged delegations to support the adoption of the draft resolution.

Agenda item 54: Globalization and interdependence (*continued*)

(a) Globalization and interdependence (*continued*) (A/C.2/60/L.12)

Draft resolution on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

2. **Mr. Blake** (Jamaica), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.12. The text drew on resolutions already adopted by the General Assembly, including the 2005 World Summit Outcome, and emphasized the need to ensure the coherence of the international monetary, financial and trading systems. The sponsors looked forward to receiving the Committee's support for the draft resolution.

(b) Science and technology for development (*continued*) (A/C.2/60/L.17)

Draft resolution on science and technology for development (*continued*)

3. **Mr. Blake** (Jamaica), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.17.

(c) International migration and development (*continued*) (A/C.2/60/L.15 and L.16)

Draft resolution on remittances

4. **Mr. Fonseca** (Brazil), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.15 on behalf of its sponsors, said that, without prejudice to the broader discussion on migration issues that would take place at the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in 2006, the draft resolution could make a significant contribution to specific and focused action on the question of remittances.

Draft resolution on international migration and development

5. **Mr. Blake** (Jamaica), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.16 and commended it to the Committee for consideration and adoption.

Agenda item 57: Operational activities for development (*continued*) (A/60/3, A/60/111, A/60/125-E/2005/85, A/60/125/Add.1-E/2005/85/Add.1 and A/60/125/Add.2-E/2005/85/Add.2)

(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system (*continued*) (A/60/74-E/2005/57, A/60/83-E/2005/72 and A/60/274)

(b) South-South cooperation: economic and technical cooperation among developing countries (*continued*) (A/60/39 and A/60/257)

6. **Mr. Belkas** (Algeria) recalled that the developing countries had undertaken in the 2005 World Summit Outcome to adopt, by 2006, national strategies to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. In addition, the Joint Inspection Unit had called on United Nations system organizations to promote better alignment of their policies and procedures with partner countries' priorities, systems and procedures.

7. His delegation welcomed the fact that the United Nations system had established alliances with organizations such as the Bretton Woods institutions in order to facilitate implementation of its ambitious agenda on behalf of the developing countries. Greater cohesion, coherence, harmonization and efficiency also were needed to achieve that goal.

8. Adequate resources provided on a predictable and sustainable basis were essential for operational activities for development. Core resources, because of their untied nature, continued to be the bedrock of those activities. However, steps must be taken to reduce the administrative costs incurred by developing countries receiving funds for operational activities for development.

9. South-South cooperation was an extremely valuable development tool that should be expanded, inter alia, through triangular cooperation. His delegation welcomed all capacity-building initiatives undertaken in the context of South-South cooperation and urged the organizations of the United Nations system to increase their support for such activities, in particular the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership. The Special Unit for South-South Cooperation should receive additional support to that end. He described a number of programmes his country had supported and was continuing to support in the context of South-South cooperation.

10. Given the importance of such collaboration, his delegation urged the General Assembly to convene a United Nations conference on south-south cooperation in 2008 to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the 1978 Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries. Similarly, his delegation called on the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, to convene a forum on South-South investments in 2006, as envisaged in the Doha Plan of Action.

11. **Mr. Gass** (Switzerland) recalled that Member States had pledged in the 2005 World Summit Outcome to enhance the relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of its operational activities, to which end it was necessary to strengthen linkages between the normative work of the United Nations and its operational activities and to strengthen the role of the senior United Nations resident official. Such enhanced relevance and effectiveness in turn necessitated a more effective Economic and Social Council.

12. His delegation was fully committed to the Summit follow-up process and would actively participate in the discussions and negotiations scheduled for the coming weeks. The Secretariat, for its part, must discharge the tasks entrusted to it by the Summit and must fully implement General Assembly resolution 59/250 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system.

13. The report of the Joint Inspection Unit on some measures to improve overall performance of the United Nations system at the country level (A/60/125 and Add.1 and 2) would serve as a useful basis for future work with respect to the policy review. In addition, the report on comprehensive statistical data on operational activities for development for 2003 (A/60/74-E/2005/57) and the report on funding options and modalities for financing operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/60/83-E/2005/72) provided valuable input for the discussion of financing during the operational segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council to be held in July 2006.

14. **Mr. Martins** (Angola), speaking on behalf of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), welcomed recent increases in extrabudgetary resources from donor countries and other global funds but expressed concern at the negligible increase in the non-earmarked or core resources of the United Nations development system in the 1996 to 2003 period. Supplementary and other sources of funding should complement — and not compete with — United Nations development efforts.

15. Although many SADC countries complemented United Nations operational activities at the country level through the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), there was still room for improvement in programming and funding modalities. The United Nations development system must continue to support national development priorities in a comprehensive and integrated manner by focusing on long-term development and enhancing national capacities to pursue poverty eradication, sustained economic growth and sustainable development. A review of training, selection processes and accountability in the resident coordinator system would enhance the coherence of the United Nations system at the country level.

16. Further consideration should be given to innovative sources of financing for development and their utilization by the United Nations development system. The debate on funding options and modalities

should be urgently resolved and advance all the dimensions of funding in a mutually reinforcing way, consistent with the spirit of paragraph 24 of General Assembly resolution 59/250.

17. SADC welcomed the increase in official development assistance and the establishment of timetables by developed countries to achieve ODA targets, including for assistance to the least developed countries. It urged those developed countries that had not yet done so to set timetables, while echoing the Secretary-General's reminder that higher ODA levels must be accompanied by measures to improve aid effectiveness through better quality and delivery, a more effective use of resources, simplified and harmonized operational processes, reduced transaction costs and enhanced national ownership.

18. The SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan and its Strategic Indicative Plan for the Organ constituted a blueprint for the region's development over the next 15 years. Efforts to implement macroeconomic policies and business-friendly reforms in southern African countries had led to increased growth in 2005. The subregion's goal was to attain the international minimum growth rate of 6 to 7 per cent in order to reduce poverty by half in 2015.

19. **Mr. Basri** (Indonesia) said that the situation in Indonesia's province of Aceh in the wake of the December 2004 tsunami had revealed the need for greater coordination of operational activities. His delegation therefore welcomed the measures taken to that end, including the work of the United Nations Development Group, UNDAFs and the common country assessment, and the acceptance of the Millennium De elopment Goals as an organizing principle for operational activities. While pleased at higher overall ODA levels, however, it was concerned that only 31.9 per cent of those resources were regarded as multilateral. The increasing popularity of supplementary funding, which was highly volatile and subject to conditionalities, coupled with the starvation of regular budgets in order to ensure zero or nominal growth, meant that the United Nations system was functioning under constraints and in a climate of uncertainty. While Indonesia supported the exploration of alternative funding models, such as the negotiated replenishment formula used by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the voluntary indicative scale of contributions used by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), it urged donors to increase funding to agencies' core budgets and to untie supplementary funding in order to make it available to projects aimed at achieving the Miilennium Development Goals.

20. Regional organizations could make a significant contribution to operational activities for development in the South. Indonesia had for many years been sharing with other developing countries its experiences in family planning, agriculture and economic policy development. It had also been granting scholarships to its tertiary institutions on a regular basis. His Government's training programmes in the framework of technical cooperation among developing countries (TDCD) had benefited over 6,000 participants from 101 developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region, Africa, the Middle East and Eastern Europe. Training programmes in 2006 would cover such areas as vocational rehabilitation for persons with disabilities, polio and measles immunization, advanced drug quality control, information technology, remote sensing and the Geographic Information System (GIS) for land use and mapping, dairy husbandry and microfinance.

21. In recognition of the value of South-South cooperation, Indonesia and South Africa had established the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership (NAASP) to strengthen political solidarity, economic cooperation and socio-cultural relations between the two continents. Through the Non-Aligned Movement's Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation established jointly with Brunei Darussalam in 1995, Indonesia had carried out programmes to develop human resources and build capacity in developing countries in cooperation with such entities as UNEP, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Islamic Development Bank.

22. **Mr. Alimov** (Russian Federation) said that the follow-up to the 2005 World Summit Outcome in the field of operational activities for development of the United Nations system should be fully integrated into the existing architecture of the intergovernmental negotiation process, which was already sufficiently effective. The Russian Federation did not support the idea of moving to a parallel track of discussing operational activities that went beyond the established process based on the triennial comprehensive policy review. General Assembly resolution 59/250 provided a good basis for strengthening the resident coordinator system, and his delegation looked forward to the

comprehensive accountability framework for resident coordinators to exercise oversight of the design and implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, requested of the Secretary-General in paragraph 58 of that resolution. The Russian Federation expected that the framework's approaches would be consistent with the new strategy and work plan on strengthening the role of United Nations resident coordinators referred to in the report of the Secretary-General on implementation of decisions from the Outcome (A/60/430). The Russian Federation was ready to consider other suggestions of the Secretary-General on strengthening the management and coordination of United Nations operational activities and on more tightly managed entities in the field of development. The World Summit Outcome had clearly determined that further work should be done in that area, with due regard for the need to maintain the institutional integrity and mandate of each organization.

23. The World Summit follow-up should not end as a further wave of operational reforms. The Organization was still only halfway through implementing the recommendations of the last triennial review and the management process for implementation of General Assembly resolution 59/250 had only recently been approved, so any new proposals could only be integrated into that existing plan for practical implementation of triennial review decisions. The 2006 session of the Economic and Social Council was the best forum for consideration of those matters.

24. The Russian Federation agreed in principle on the importance of broadening the donor base of funds and programmes, supported improved predictability, long-term stability and adequacy of financing of operational activities. It was taking practical steps to that end. During the current year there were plans to double on average the Russian Federation's voluntary contributions to some United Nations funds and programmes. Any new funding options should not change the voluntary nature of funding for operational activities, which allowed United Nations funds and programmes to maintain their main comparative advantage: the neutral and non-politicized nature of the assistance. The Russian Federation was ready to discuss the issue further, taking into account its own interest as an emerging development assistance donor, and believed that such discussion could be held in conjunction with the comprehensive review of trends and perspectives in funding for development cooperation during the 2006 annual session of the Economic and Social Council.

25. Finally, the Russian Federation welcomed the inclusion of the multi-year dimension in the report on comprehensive statistical data (A/60/74) and endorsed the need to improve the quality and comprehensiveness of data, as well as the methodology, by enhancing cooperation with the United Nations Statistical Commission and other multilateral institutions.

26. **Mr. Dall'Oglio** (Observer for the International Organization for Migration (IOM)) expressed support for efforts to increase cooperation and coordination among United Nations development activities at the country level. He welcomed, in particular, the growing international attention to the linkage between migration and development, which was acknowledged in the 2005 World Summit Outcome and would be the topic of the High-level Dialogue in 2006. IOM would be cooperating with United Nations country teams in mainstreaming migration into current development frameworks, and, through such tools as UNDAF and the poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSPs), into operational activities for development. The economic and social commissions of the United Nations could play a vital role in that process. He acknowledged, in particular, the cooperation of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) on the issue of migration and development.

27. **Mr. Pang** Kwang Hyok (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) said that the Heads of State and Government of developing countries had reaffirmed their commitment to South-South cooperation and agreed on a new strategy and action plan for political, economic and socio-cultural cooperation at the Asian-African Summit, held in Jakarta in April, and the Second South Summit, held in Doha in June. Increasing flows of trade, investment, finance, technology and energy and the third round of negotiations under the Global System of Trade Preferences Among Developing Countries (GSTP) reflected new dynamics in economic cooperation among developing countries.

28. His delegation welcomed the decision adopted by the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation at its fourteenth session in June 2005 to focus on a new strategy and overall framework for the promotion and application of South-South cooperation in response to

new realities. The role of the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation should be strengthened as a focal point to support developing countries' capacity-building initiatives, and to give impetus to South-South and triangular cooperation. The Unit should be able to develop new projects and programmes for bilateral and multilateral cooperation, taking into account the needs of developing countries. He called for greater international assistance for South-South cooperation, including through the mobilization of regular and additional resources in the spirit of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development.

29. Government had actively participated in economic and technical cooperation within the framework of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and the Group of 77 and China, as well as the United Nations system. Through the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, and in close cooperation with the Group of 77 and China and the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, it had implemented projects to train experts from Asian and African developing countries in agriculture, science and technology, water resources and small-scale hydropower.

30. **Mr. Scott** (United States of America) called for a reduction in overhead costs by eliminating overlapping activities and programmes and using common administrative platforms, and for greater transparency and accountability in the management of bureaucracies. Programme delivery could be improved by exploiting the comparative advantages of organizations and competing with other actors inside and outside the United Nations development community. Some of the recommendations made in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on some measures to improve overall performance of the United Nations system at the country level (A/60/125/Add.2), for example, common training opportunities and evaluation of resident coordinators' teamwork and horizontal cooperation skills, could improve management practices. Others, however — such as the single core country analysis and single comprehensive implementation plan — were of questionable practical value. A centralized system might actually stifle the initiative of individual organizations and raise questions about agencies' accountability to their own governing bodies.

31. His delegation welcomed the emergence of new performance-based funding modalities in other multilateral organizations and bilateral donor communities, but did not support the voluntary indicative scale of contributions or negotiated replenishment models described in the report of the Secretary-General on funding options and modalities for financing operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/60/83-E/2005/72). As recognized in the triennial comprehensive policy review, national capacity-building could best guarantee sound programming and effective use of aid that would attract donor support.

32. Funding should be analysed on the basis of programme impact on the ground, consistent with the results-oriented management and budgeting principles embraced by the Organization. Such an analysis should determine whether programmes fostered lasting development that could end aid dependency, included a time frame for building national capacity to operate programmes and developed domestic resources to pay for services.

33. His delegation was not in favour of automatic funding for United Nations development activities. As the triennial comprehensive policy review had always affirmed, funding for operational activities should remain wholly voluntary. Nor did the United States support further studies on funding modalities, which emphasized input to feed bureaucracies rather than crucial development output. Experience had shown that funding tended to increase with results-oriented management. The figures provided in the report of the Secretary-General on comprehensive statistical data on operational activities for development for 2003 (A/60/74-E/2005/57) further confirmed the value of linking goals and targets to funding in strategic planning (for example, in the multi-year financing framework). The current voluntary funding system was the best way to ensure accountability for results; those development resources must now be used effectively.

34. Referring to the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation (A/60/257), he said that a vibrant private sector was the basis for employment and growth. Noting the growing role of the private sector in developing countries, he encouraged the Organization to support that trend.

35. **Mr. Sunaga** (Japan) called for optimal use of resources to increase the effectiveness and efficiency

of operational activities for development. To that end, harmonization and coordination in the United Nations, its funds, programmes and specialized agencies must be pursued in accordance with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness issued earlier in the year. The coordination should specify the unique mandate of each fund and programme within UNDAF and CCA in order to avoid duplication and ambiguity.

36. It was also vital to explore ways of reducing overhead costs, including through the establishment of joint United Nations offices. The United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) should submit to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council a list of suggested locations for such offices.

37. South-South cooperation contributed to trade capacity development and sustainable development in developing countries. Japan was promoting South-South cooperation through its Tokyo International Conferences on African Development (TICAD). Its Asia-Africa Knowledge Co-Creation Programme brought participants from Africa and Asia to Japan and other Asian countries to acquire new knowledge, ideas and approaches for their own capacity development programmes. Japan was also supporting the work of the UNDP Special Unit for South-South Cooperation.

38. **Mr. Varma** (India) expressed the hope that the process of implementing the 2005 World Summit Outcome would follow the guidance provided by the triennial comprehensive policy review and be conducted in consultation with Member States. The 2004 review had emphasized the responsibility of national governments for coordinating all types of external assistance and effectively integrating it into their development processes. India had consistently held the view that the coordination of external assistance should be undertaken only by the recipient Government. The exercise of coordination by the United Nations should be confined to assistance through the United Nations system. Field-level coordination should be carried out by national authorities, which would ensure that the organizations of the United Nations system contributed in a coherent manner to national development plans and priorities.

39. The predictability, long-term stability, reliability and adequacy of funding were undoubtedly the primary requirements for enhancing the capacity of the United Nations system's operational activities for development but, despite some positive trends, funds and programmes continued to suffer from the growing disparity between core and non-core resources. Lack of sufficient core resources for both administration and programme development had been cited as the single most important constraint on the performance of development entities. The report of the Secretary-General had identified the multi-year funding framework as having the potential to increase that core funding, or at least the predictability of core resources. With regard to non-traditional modalities for funding operational activities, there should be no compromise on the basic attributes, such as multilateralism, neutrality, flexibility, universality, and the voluntary and grant nature of funding. Non-traditional modalities of funding should not introduce new conditionalities.

40. India believed that the countries of the South could benefit enormously from exchanges of individual development experience and best practice. Contributions from the developed countries could add a positive dimension. The countries of the South needed skills and expertise in high technology areas and expanded mechanisms for transferring experience in such areas as human resources development. In the past two decades, scientific and technical competence had grown substantially in the countries of the South and had created significant complementarities between them. What was required was the will and the investments to put those complementarities to productive use.

41. It was important to strengthen the operational arm of the United Nations by providing it with stable, reliable, untied and adequate resources. It was also important to enhance the overall prosperity and well-being in the South through the creation and strengthening of capacity within the South.

42. **Mr. Ajakaiye** (Nigeria) said that operational activities for development were vital to achieving internationally agreed development goals. The United Nations could play a unique role in coordinating and providing necessary policy guidance at the country level in support of development activities, which for some countries offered the best hope of complementing national development efforts. While the United Nations system should endeavour to fulfil its mandate, Member States and other partners should provide the support it required in doing so.

43. Funding was a key requirement, and it was disheartening that more and more United Nations entities relied on supplementary rather than core resources. While supplementary funding was important and filled resource gaps, excessive reliance on it could undermine the credibility of the United Nations system as a universal and neutral body. Its ability to respond to the demand of developing countries could be stymied as a result of overdependence on supplementary funding, which unnecessarily tied the system to the vagaries of donor preferences and priorities. Decisive steps should be taken to overcome the insufficiency of core resources, which had been described by the Secretary-General as the single most important constraint on the performance of development entities. While competition in fund-raising activities within the United Nations system was inevitable, it was generally fed by the heavy reliance on supplementary funding and quite often resulted in the overcrowding of operational activities on certain themes to the detriment of others. Administrative and programme costs must not be left to volatile annual contributions, and there was merit in discussing a global development product with corresponding global resource targets. Such a debate could benefit from the lessons already learned in other bodies, notably the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

44. Operational activities at the country level must build and enhance the capacities of national stakeholders to engage in a meaningful manner with the United Nations system. There was often a mismatch in developing countries between those stakeholders and United Nations country teams, and that mismatch could be and in fact had been exploited to undermine national ownership and leadership in the implementation of development programmes. The practice did not lend itself to compliance with set operational guidelines. United Nations system activities should remain neutral and multilateral, capable of sustaining the confidence and trust of both donor and recipient countries while responding flexibly to the national needs, priorities and circumstances of developing countries. There was a continuing need to ensure coherence, coordination, effectiveness and outcome; steps should be taken to strengthen the central role of the Economic and Social Council in coordinating and providing policy guidance on global development cooperation.

45. While UNDAF aimed to ensure complementarity among agencies, it was very difficult to achieve that objective where implementation structures were lacking at national level. Nigeria had seen a reduction in programme coverage for each programme cycle, presumably as a reflection of the inadequate funding of United Nations agencies, which in order to perform effectively needed assured, predictable and stable funding, preferably from core resources. There was also a need for recipients to improve their performance in the use of aid in order to enhance transparency and accountability. Nigeria supported the use of results-based management approaches and advocated simplification and harmonization within the United Nations system. Complex rules and procedures must be streamlined in order to reduce costs, improve results and increase the impact and sustainability of interventions. Government participation, a flexible country-by-country approach, a focus on national processes and systems and the adoption of good practice must all be pursued and ensured throughout the United Nations.

46. Nigeria was strongly and actively committed to South-South cooperation, and would shortly be contributing US$ 1 million to the Voluntary Trust Fund administered by UNDP in keeping with the call in the Havana Programme of Action for the establishment of a special fund to promote South-South activities.

47. Finally, Nigeria recognized the cardinal obligation to promote gender equality, believing that the empowerment of women would bring substantial benefits to families and societies at large. His country was pursuing a number of national programmes in that regard; for them to have effect, strong partnerships and external support were needed to complement national efforts.

48. **Mr. Savchuk** (Ukraine) welcomed the confirmation by the World Summit of the centrality of national ownership in defining development strategies and cooperation modalities with the United Nations, integrating Millennium Development Goals in operational activities and promoting a greater role for resident coordinators in the field. Progress had been made in implementing General Assembly resolution 59/250 and furthering reform processes. There were encouraging signs that inter-agency and field-level coordination was progressing well, but simpler programming procedures should be sought with the aim of improving services to recipient countries and

enhancing their capacities to manage programmes and projects. Both CCA and UNDAF mechanisms had proved effective in providing a collective and integrated response to national priorities and linking them with programme activities of United Nations operational agencies. However, there should be more focus on the economic content of the mechanisms and more strategic collaboration with the Bretton Woods institutions and regional commissions in the CCA/UNDAF process.

49. The impact of United Nations operational activities for development could and should be enhanced through a substantial increase in their funding on a predictable, continuous and assured basis commensurate with the needs of recipient countries. There was also a need for a better balance between core and non-core resources, with greater emphasis on the former. It was essential to preserve the voluntary nature of contributions to core resources and to strengthen links between resource mobilization and performance in the field. There should be stronger collaborative links between the United Nations agencies, the Bretton Woods institutions and other development partners, and greater attention to promoting policy and programming coordination between them at sectoral and strategic levels.

50. Noting the overall alignment of United Nations operational activities in Ukraine with national development priorities and goals, he said that his country would like greater emphasis on programme areas such as HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care, reproductive health, and mitigation of the long-standing consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. It was Ukraine's belief that those concerns would be adequately addressed in further work to finalize UNDP and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) draft country programmes for Ukraine for 2006-2010. Ukraine was committed to increasing the volume and quality of its cooperation with United Nations operational agencies.

51. **Mr. Husain** (Observer for the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC)) said that OIC endorsed the conclusion in paragraph 95 of document A/60/257 that the international community should scale up South-South cooperation and triangular initiatives requiring the mobilization of complementary resources from North and South. One example of such cooperation in the OIC region was the support provided by the Islamic Development Bank for economic and technical cooperation programmes and projects in its member and observer States, all of which were in the South.

52. OIC also endorsed the conclusion in paragraph 97 of the same document to the effect that public-private partnerships should be expanded and strengthened as a means of overcoming obstacles to South-South cooperation. The Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Industry, an affiliated institution of OIC, promoted such partnerships through the chambers of commerce of its member States.

53. The proposal to upgrade the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation was most timely, and his Organization hoped for major breakthroughs in South-South triangular cooperation on a variety of initiatives. It strongly supported the recommendations concerning such cooperation contained in the report of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation (A/60/39) and looked forward to continued collaboration with the United Nations system, in particular the Special Unit.

The meeting rose at 5.05 p.m.